

Appendix AClaim Amendments

1. (Currently amended) A method of treating an airway disorder in a patient comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a proton pump inhibitor, wherein the proton pump inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of 5-difluoromethoxy-2-[(3,4-dimethoxy-2-pyridinyl)methylsulphonyl]-1H-benzimidazole (INN: pantoprazole), (-)-5-difluoromethoxy-2-[(3,4-dimethoxy-2-pyridinyl)methylsulphonyl]-1H-benzimidazole (INN: (-)-pantoprazole) and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts, hydrates, solvates, hydrates of the salts and solvates of the salts or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, hydrate, solvate, hydrate of a salt or solvate of a salt thereof.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently amended) ~~Ready to use medicament~~ A pharmaceutical composition comprising a proton pump inhibitor as active compound and a reference to the fact that it can be employed for the treatment of airway disorders, wherein the proton pump inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of 5-difluoromethoxy-2-[(3,4-dimethoxy-2-pyridinyl)methylsulphonyl]-1H-benzimidazole (INN: pantoprazole), (-)-5-difluoromethoxy-2-[(3,4-dimethoxy-2-pyridinyl)methylsulphonyl]-1H-benzimidazole (INN: (-)-pantoprazole) and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts, hydrates, solvates, hydrates of the salts and solvates of the salts thereof.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the airway disorder is selected from the group

consisting of bronchitis, COPD, asthma, pneumonitis and pulmonary fibrosis.

10. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the proton pump inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of pantoprazole sodium sesquihydrate, (-)-pantoprazole sodium sesquihydrate, and pantoprazole magnesium dihydrate, ~~omeprazole-magnesium, omeprazole-magnesium-tetrahydrate, esomeprazole-magnesium and esomeprazole-magnesium-tetrahydrate.~~